Shift in pattern of crop production

1395. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a shift in the pattern of crop production in the Kharif and Rabi seasons, showing an increase in the Rabi crop and corresponding decrease in the Kharif crop; and

(b) if so, what is the analysis of this change and its impact on the future agricultural scene in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) The production of both Kharif and Rabi is showing an upward trend in major cereal/pulses crops except for variations in certain years due to agro climatic conditions.

Assistance for setting up cold storages

1396. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre is providing all assistance/subsidies for setting up cold storages in States for preservation of dairy, poultry, fishery and floriculture products and other perishables;

(b) whether the National Housing Bank has been appointed as the nodal agency for implementation of such projects;

(c) whether any such proposal from Karnataka for setting up cold storages is under consideration of the NHB and the Centre; and

(d) if so, how soon the proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) and (b) Different Departments and Organisations of the Government of India provide assistance under various schemes for preservation of perishable products. National Housing Bank has not been appointed nodal agency by any Organization of the Ministry of Agriculture.

(c) and (d) As per information made available by NHB (National